# NATURAL NEWS

The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

October 18, 1996


## MUSEUM MOTORISTS BEWARE! CHICAGO MARATHON BEGINS!

The LaSalle Banks Chicago Marathon will be held Sunday, October 20, with a start time of 7:45 a.m. The enclosed map shows the route. While access to the Museum will not be affected, anyone leaving the Museum to go southbound will have to travel north on Lake Shore Drive to Randolph, then turn west to Columbus, to return to southbound Lake Shore Drive. Staff arriving and departing northbound should be aware that Balbo Drive will be closed Saturday, September 19 as well as September 20, due to Marathon preparations.

**Ron Cundiff**

## VOICE MAIL CRASH

On Wednesday, October 16, the Museum again experienced a disruption of voice mail as undeleted messages overloaded the system. Again -- ***please*** delete your messages as soon as you have listened to them. If you don't know how to do this, call **Pat Phillips** (x216). When you are going to be out of the office for an extended period, remember to ask a co-worker to write up and then delete your messages.

## CENTER FOR EVOLUTIONARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY

### *SOEJARTO NAMED UNIVERSITY SCHOLAR AT UIC*

Research Associate **Doel Soejarto** (Botany, and Professor of Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacognosy at UIC) was recently recognized as one of the outstanding faculty at the University of Illinois at Chicago by being named a University Scholar. Doel has several major field programs searching for anti-cancer and anti-AIDS compounds in plants, particularly in southeastern Asia. He and his students are also involved with several ethnobotanical studies including projects in South America, Africa, and Southeast Asia. Doel and his students actively use the herbarium and The Field Museum is the repository for plants collected through their field work. Even with all of the time in the field, Doel finds time to publish important works on pharmacognosy, ethnobotany, and plant systematics. He has written or co-written more than 140 papers. We are fortunate to have Doel as a close colleague and congratulate him on this much deserved recognition.

### *EARLY MAMMAL RELATIVES FLY!*

From Madagascar to The Field Museum, via airfreight, of course. Just arrived in the museum are a crate of fossils from this summer's one month (mid-July to mid-

August, 1996) paleontological expedition, supported by the National Geographic Society. Field Museum's "Equipe Spiders" (affectionately named for the hats worn by most of our team) was co-led by Curator **John Flynn** and Research Associate **Mike Parrish**, and included Chief Preparator/ Collections Manager **Bill Simpson**, Research Associate **André Wyss** (all Geology), and six Malagasy students and colleagues. Our trip started eventfully, when after eleven hours of driving, the driver of Flynn's vehicle took an unplanned 3 AM excursion, veering sharply off the highway and plowing into scenic forest. After stopping between two large trees (at least we had three inches on each side of the vehicle, to avoid nasty scratches to the paint finish), Flynn generously offered to drive for a while. Later that morning we had the eye-popping, natural stimulant of a visit to the quarry where Research Associates **Dave Krause** and **Cathy Forster** (in a project in which Collections Manager **Greg Buckley** (all Geology), is also a principal investigator) were excavating skulls and skeletons of two Cretaceous dinosaurs and another bird. In a week the first skull ever discovered of the large meat-eating dinosaur *Majungasaurus* will make its way to the Stanley Field Hall "Geology Lab" for preparation on display to the public. After spending more than a week slogging around, not finding much, we had the good fortune of finding a series of Jurassic localities in northwest Madagascar where we recovered partial skeletons of a huge dinosaur, *Bothriospondylus*, a relative of *Brachiosaurus* already known from the island, as well as teeth and skeletal pieces of the first Jurassic theropods (meat-eating dinosaurs) ever found in Madagascar. Feeling that we already had at least moderate success, we headed to the much drier regions of southwest Madagascar, where we discovered several extremely important specimens in middle Triassic (about 230-240 million years ago) deposits. These include an almost complete skull of a sheep-sized cynodont (an early mammal relative) and the almost complete skeleton (we're hoping there is a head hiding in a large block of rock associated with it) of a smaller cynodont. Middle Triassic rocks are quite rare globally, and these specimens will help answer questions about the biogeography of Madagascar and the early evolution of the mammal lineage.

*ASK NOT WHAT YOUR PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY CAN DO FOR YOU, BUT...*

Two Geology Department curators were elected officers of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) during September elections. **John Bolt** was reelected to a fourth term as Treasurer. After serving three years as Secretary of the SVP, **John Flynn** was elected Vice-President. Following his two-year term as Vice-President, Flynn will serve two years as the SVP's President. The SVP has more than 1,600 professional, student and amateur members around the world, dedicated to the advancement of the science of the paleontology of "back-boned" animals.

*NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FUNDS FISH SURVEY OF CHILEAN ISLANDS*

The National Geographic Society recently awarded a Grant for Field-Based Scientific research ($53,000) to Associate Curator **Mark Westneat** ( Zoology, Fishes) and former Zoology doctoral intern Brian Dyer. Mark and Brian will lead a team of American and Chilean biologists in a survey of the marine life of two island chains in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Chile, South

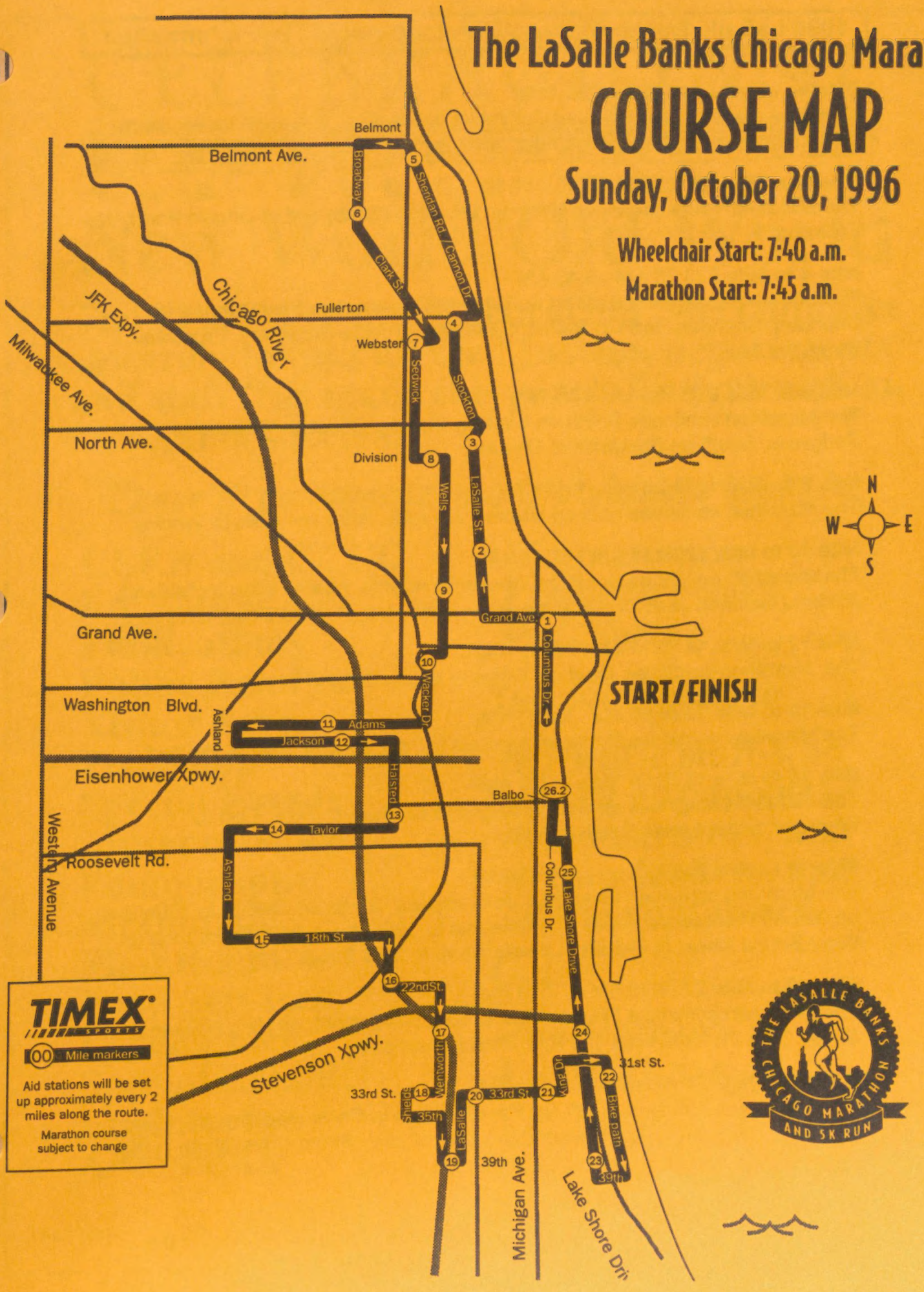
# The LaSalle Banks Chicago Marathon

# COURSE MAP

## Sunday, October 20, 1996

**Wheelchair Start: 7:40 a.m.**

**Marathon Start: 7:45 a.m.**




**TIMEX** SPORTS

00 Mile markers

Aid stations will be set up approximately every 2 miles along the route.

Marathon course subject to change

THE LASALLE BANKS CHICAGO MARATHON AND 5K RUN

# 1996 LaSalle Banks Chicago Marathon Route Time Information

**Start to Mile 2** (7:45 AM - 8:05 AM)
Marathon starts in Grant Park at Columbus and Balbo. The route travels North to Grand, West on Grand to LaSalle, North on LaSalle to Stockton.

**Mile 2 to Mile 4** (7:55 AM - 8:25 AM)
The Marathon route continues North on Stockton (South end of Lincoln Park), to Fullerton.

**Mile 4 to Mile 6** (8:05 AM - 8:45 AM)
The Marathon continues East on Fullerton to Cannon, North on Cannon to Sheridan, Sheridan North to Belmont, Belmont West to Broadway, Broadway South to Clark.

**Mile 6 to Mile 8** (8:15 AM - 9:15 AM)
The Marathon continues South on Clark to Webster, West on Webster to Sedgwick, South on Sedgwick to Division.

**Mile 8 to Mile 10** (8:25 AM - 9:45 AM)
The Marathon continues east on Division to Wells, South on Wells to Wacker.

**Mile 10 to Mile 12** (8:35 AM - 10:10 AM)
The Marathon continues South on Wacker to Adams, Adams West to Ashland, Ashland South to Jackson, Jackson West to Halsted, Halsted South to Taylor.

**Mile 12 to Mile 14** (8:45 AM - 10:35 AM)
The Marathon continues West on Taylor to Ashland.

**Mile 14 to Mile 16** (8:55 AM - 11:00 AM)
The Marathon continues South on Ashland to 18th, East on 18th to Halsted.

**Mile 16 to Mile 18** (9:05 AM - 11:25 AM)
The Marathon continues on South Halsted to Cermak, Cermak East to Wentworth, Wentworth South to 33rd.

**Mile 18 to Mile 20** (9:15 AM - 11:45 AM)
The Marathon continues West on 33rd to Shields, South on Shields to 35th, East on 35th to Wentworth, South on Wentworth to 39th Street, 39th Street East (in West Bound lanes) to LaSalle, LaSalle North to 33rd Street.

**Mile 20 to Mile 22** (9:25 AM - 12:10 AM)
The Marathon continues East on 33rd to King Drive, North on King Drive to 31st Street, 31st Street to East The Bike Path (center path).

**Mile 22 to Mile 24** (9:35 AM - 12:35 PM)
The Marathon continues South on The Bike Path to Oakwood Drive, West on Oakwood Drive to the South Bound exit lane of Lake Shore Drive, North in the South Bound lane of Lake Shore Drive to 31st Street.

**Mile 24 to Finish** (9:50 AM - 1:15 PM)
The Marathon travels North in the South Bound lane from 31st Street to the Finish at the South End of Grant Park on Columbus.

# CELEBRACION'96

THE FIELD MUSEUM

# New World/Old World

**The Field Museum Celebracion '96 committee sincerely thanks all the Museum departments and staff that made this year's festival such an incredible success.**

***These departments and individuals include:***

**CEEB and CCUC**
**Education**
**Publications**
**Public Relations**
**Visitor Services**
**Printshop**
**Special Events**
**Museum Store**
**Photography**
**McDonalds**
**Mail Room**
**Food Services**
**Development**
**Special Exhibits**
**Engineering**
**Accounting**
**Maintenance**
**Public Services**
**Purchasing**

***Special thanks to:***

**Scientific staff who served as panelists, demonstrators, and as tour leaders, and all the volunteers.**

***And:***

**Phil Hanson**
**Laura Gates**
**Pat Kramer**

**The Celebracion '96 committee: Rosaura Boone, Kristie Webber, Becky Lopez, and Dan Brinkmeier**

## ❦ *Green Sheet and Work Request Reminder* ❦

**Please submit your green sheets and work requests at least seven days in advance.**

Advance notice will greatly assist in assuring that all service requests can be responded to on time.

For coordination purposes, please give copies of Green Sheets and work requests for Housekeeping and Audio Visual directly to **Paula Brandabur**, Public Services, Room G529.

Copies of Green Sheets and Work Requests for Engineering and Maintenance should be given to **Andris Pavasars**, Facility Planning and Operation, Room G528.

***Thank you for your cooperation!***

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## FIELD MUSEUM STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

**9th Annual Holiday Bazaar**

Dining Room E
December 6, 1996
10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
(10:00 a.m. set up)

If you wish to reserve a table, please call **Pam Buczkowske** (x239) or **Elaine Zeiger** (x338): ***First Come, First Serve!***

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The *Natural News* is edited by **Carolyn Klyce** in the President's Office. The deadline for all submissions -- in WordPerfect on floppy disk or via email to klyce@fmppr.fmnh.org -- is Tuesday at noon. Printed on recycled paper.

America. This is the first scientific survey of the aquatic fauna of the Desventuradas and Juan Fernández archipelagos. Of particular interest is the collection of fishes and benthic invertebrates of the islands. Participants in the expedition will include Associate Curator **Rüdiger Bieler** (Zoology, Invertebrates) and University of Chicago graduate student **Melina Hale** (Zoology). Scientific goals are to reveal the degree of faunal exchange between faunas of islands and coastal areas, and to explain high degrees of endemism (unique species) in the Juan Fernández and Desventuradas islands. Information will potentially be used for designation of the first Chilean marine reserve at Juan Fernández.

*FMNH HOSTS SOCIETY FOR PHYSICAL REGULATION IN BIOLOGY AND MEDICINE*

Last week (October 9-12) the Society for Physical Regulation in Biology and Medicine held its 16th annual meeting in Chicago, at the Midlands Hotel. This Society focuses on physical factors in the design, growth, repair, and regeneration of tissues in bone and muscle systems in vertebrate animals, with the goal of aiding in the prevention and treatment of diseases such as osteoarthrosis. This year, a symposium was held entitled Influences of Mechanical Forces on Vertebrate Evolution and Design. Among the speakers were R. McNeil Alexander of Leeds, Michael LaBarbera and Andy Biewener of the University of Chicago, and Assistant Curator **Mark Westneat** (Zoology, Fishes), who gave a paper entitled "Using Phylogenetic Information in Comparative Vertebrate Biomechanics." On Thursday evening, the Society held their reception at The Field Museum, at which participants were observed sipping their cocktails and speculating on the mechanical safety factors of Brachiosaurus limb bones.

*NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FOR BOTANY*

**Susan Hamnik** is the Administrative Assistant for Botany as of October 1. Sue has been at the Museum for more than five years working in the Zoology (Amphibians and Reptiles and Invertebrates Divisions) and Botany Departments. For the past year, she has worked as Associate Curator Greg Mueller's (Botany) research assistant, and helped manage his grants. Congratulations, Sue!

*MYCOLOGISTS HOST MIDWEST MEETING*

Associate Curator **Greg Mueller** and Research Associate **Betty Strack**, with the invaluable assistance of Administrative Assistant **Sue Hamnik** and University of Chicago graduate student **John Paul Schmit** (all Botany), hosted the 22nd Annual A. H. Smith Great Lakes States Mycological Foray and Meeting. The meeting was held from September 27-29 at the Lorado Taft Field Campus of Northern Illinois University, Oregon, Illinois. More than fifty faculty and students from six states attended. Postdoctoral Research Associate **Jack Murphy** (Botany) focused on the results of our local programs on fungi and how these programs fit into the Chicago Wilderness initiative during his keynote address. Research Associate **Sabine Huhndorf**, Postdoctoral Research Associate **Fernando Fernandez**, and University of Illinois at Chicago undergraduate student **Aleksa Kosinski** (Botany) also attended. The

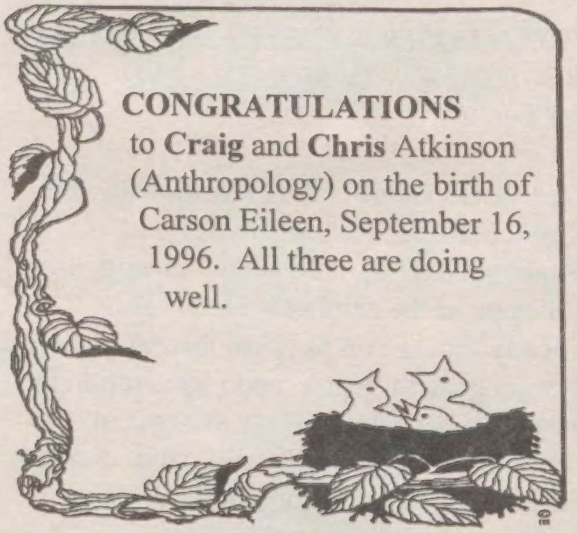
previous week's rain brought out the fungi as well as the mycologists, and we were able to significantly increase our specimens of fungi from Ogle County.

*FUNGI AND FALL COLOR GREET MYCOLOGISTS IN NORTH CAROLINA*

Early October is a great time to be in the mountains of North Carolina if you are a mycologist; the fungi are plentiful and the autumn colors are at their peak. Collections Manager **Qiuxin Wu**, Associate Curator **Greg Mueller**, Postdoctoral Research Associate **Fernando Fernandez**, Research Associates **Sabine Huhndorf** and **Betty Strack** (all Botany), and Professor Jiang-Chun Wei, Institute of Microbiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing (Qiuxin and Greg's primary Chinese collaborator) took advantage of this fact and spent a week (October 4-12) working out of Highlands Biological Station, Highlands, North Carolina. They were joined for part of the time by a group from The University of Tennessee. Sabine and Fernando collected species of Lasiosphaeriaceae as part of Sabine's NSF-PEET funded project on the group. The others were there as part of Qiuxin's, Greg's, and Prof. Wei's project investigating biogeographic relationships between eastern North America and China. The Highlands area, along with the Huron Mountains in Michigan, are the two primary North American comparative sites. They set up sampling plots to obtain quantitative data on species richness and collected samples of some of the species that reportedly occur in eastern North America and China, but from nowhere else for their morphological and molecular analyses. Both teams returned with their baskets full.

*NOON BALLOON*

The Noon Balloon presentation for Tuesday October 15, 1996 was delivered by P. O. Nameer, Advanced Training Program in the Conservation of Biological Diversity, Field Museum, and Assistant Professor, Department of Wildlife Sciences, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur, India. He focused on the flora and fauna of the Western Ghats in southwestern India. He underscored the need for new conservation efforts to control the impact of the removal of non-timber forest products from the forests.

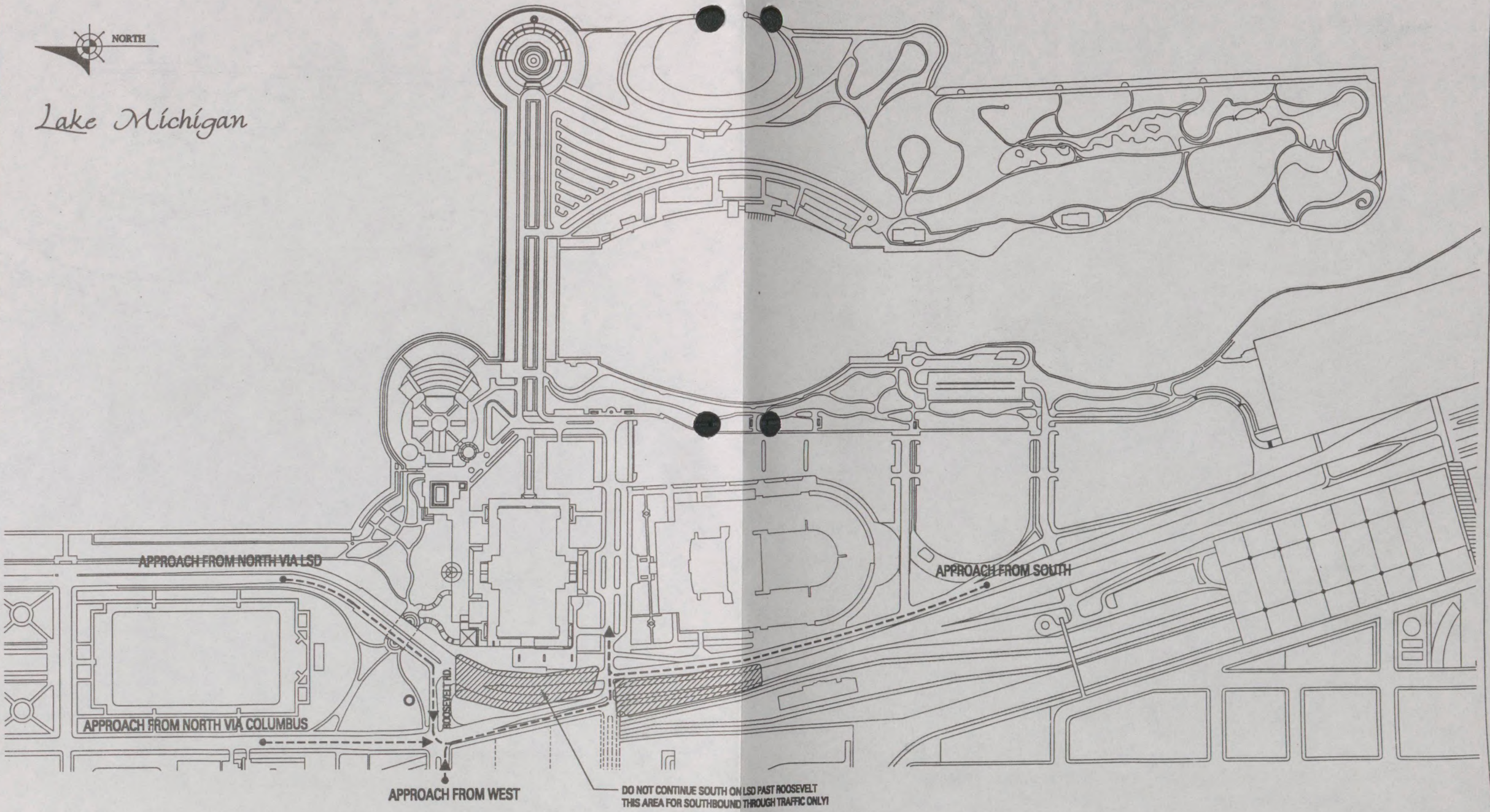

CONGRATULATIONS
to **Craig** and **Chris** Atkinson (Anthropology) on the birth of Carson Eileen, September 16, 1996. All three are doing well.

**ATTENTION -- ALL EMPLOYEES WITH DIRECT DEPOSIT**

Before you close your bank accounts, stop and think! You must notify the Personnel/Payroll Department first. If you do not do this, your paycheck will be sitting in limbo and you will not receive your paycheck until the next paydate! Questions? Call **Doris** (x220) or **Sandy** (x289).

NORTH

Lake Michigan


APPROACH FROM NORTH VIA LSD
APPROACH FROM NORTH VIA COLUMBUS
ROOSEVELT RD.
APPROACH FROM WEST
APPROACH FROM SOUTH
DO NOT CONTINUE SOUTH ON LSD PAST ROOSEVELT
THIS AREA FOR SOUTHBOUND THROUGH TRAFFIC ONLY!

1996 CONSTRUCTION

# ENTERING THE CAMPUS

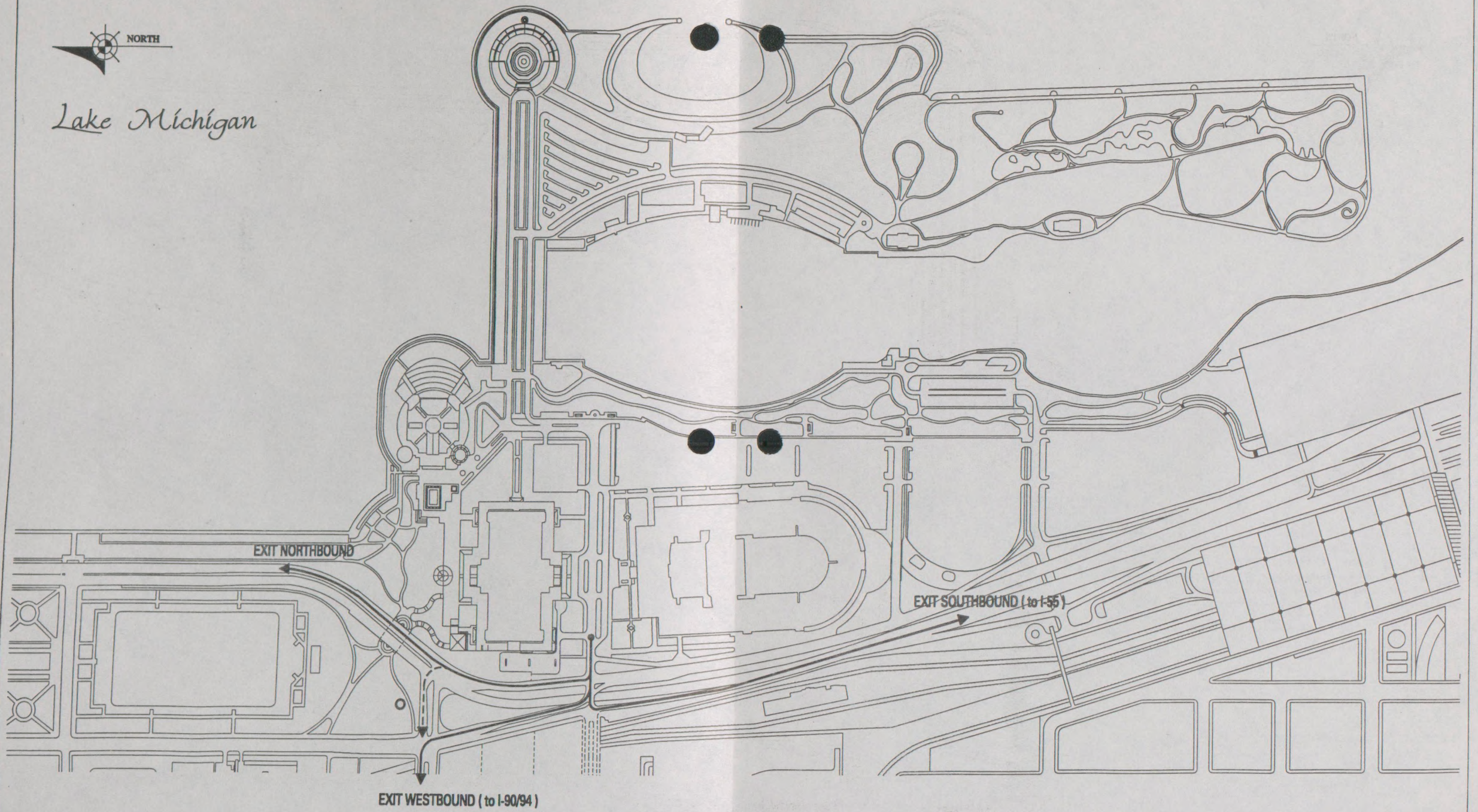
CAMPUS ENTRY SEQUENCES AS OF DECEMBER 1, 1996

ASK-105

OCTOBER 1996

NORTH

Lake Michigan




1996 CONSTRUCTION

# LEAVING THE CAMPUS

CAMPUS EXIT SEQUENCES AS OF DECEMBER 1, 1996

ASK-104

OCTOBER 1996